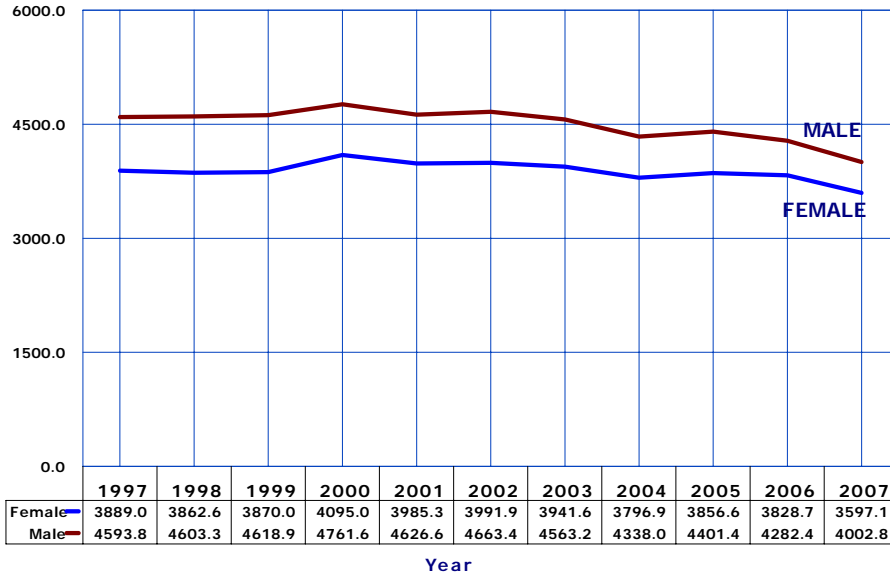


2C. AGE-SPECIFIC MORTALITY
Elderly mortality (ages 65 years and older)

Figure 2C-21
Mortality Rates by Gender and Year among Elderly 65 Years and Older,
Arizona, 1997-2007



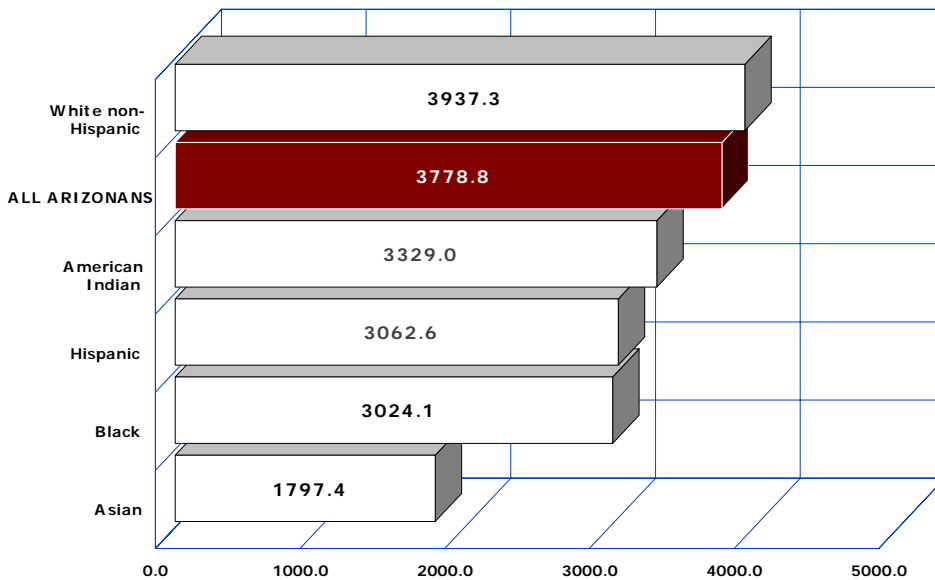
In 2007, an estimated 835,772 elderly over 64 years of age resided in the State (Table 10A-1). No other age group has as great a disproportionate gender distribution as the elderly. As a result of the higher total mortality rates for males in each of the earlier periods of lifespan, 23 percent more elderly women than men were alive in 2007.

The 2007 elderly mortality rate of 3778.8 per 100,000 was 10.1 percent lower than the 1997 rate of 4201.6, and it was the lowest annual elderly mortality rate of the eleven years from 1997 to 2007.

Survival chances improved from 1997 to 2007 for both elderly males and females. The 2007 total mortality rate among elderly females was 7.5 percent lower than their rate in 1997. The mortality rate among elderly males decreased 12.9 percent from 1997 to 2007, 1.7 times more than the female rate (Figure 2C-21, Table 2C-24).

Number of deaths per 100,000 persons, 65+ years old in specified group.

Figure 2C-22
Mortality Rates by Race/Ethnicity among Elderly 65 Years and Older,
Arizona, 2007



In 2007 the mortality rate for Arizona's White non-Hispanic elderly residents was 2.2 times that for the Asian elderly population. The mortality rate of 1797.4 /100,000 among elderly Asians was the lowest rate among the race/ethnic groups (Figure 2C-22). Blacks or African American elderly had the second lowest mortality rate in 2007, 9.2 percent lower than the mortality rate of American Indian elderly.

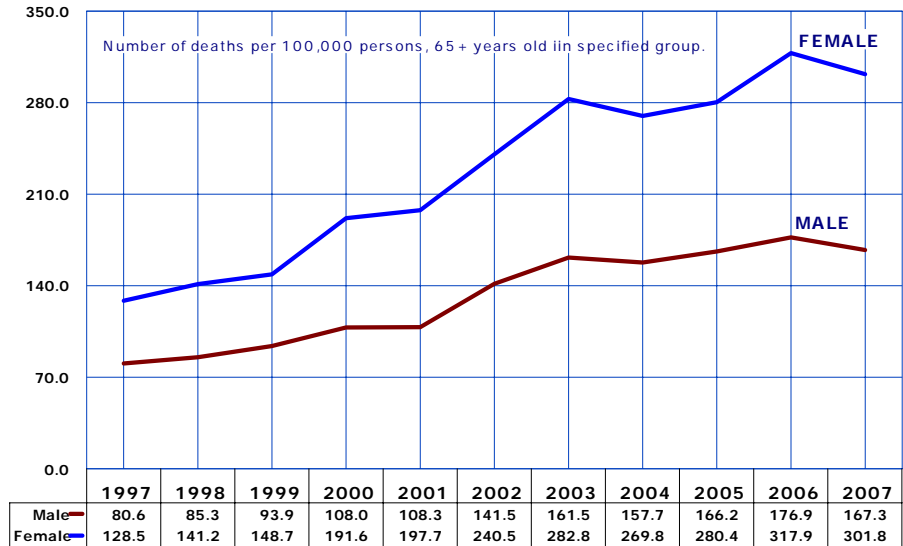
The 2007 mortality rates of Black or African American and Hispanic or Latino elderly differed by a mere 1.4 percent.

Number of deaths per 100,000 persons, 65+ years old in specified group.

2C. AGE-SPECIFIC MORTALITY
Elderly mortality (ages 65 years and older)

The two tables (Tables 2C-24 and 2C-25) provide mortality rates for the five causes with the greatest number of deaths over the 1997 – 2007 period. In 1997-2007, Alzheimer's disease (14,209 deaths) replaced influenza and pneumonia (11,579 deaths) as the fifth leading cause of death among females and both genders but not elderly males 65 years or older (Table 2C-24). Among elderly males 65 years old or older, influenza and pneumonia accounted for 5,526 deaths in 1997-2007, compared to 4,484 deaths from Alzheimer's disease. From 2006 to 2007, age-specific death rates for Alzheimer's disease decreased by 5.4 percent for elderly males and by 5.1 percent for elderly females (Figure 2C-23). There were 1,393 deaths from Alzheimer's disease among elderly females in 2007, 2.2 times the number of deaths from this cause among males (Table 2C-27). In 1997, the Alzheimer's disease mortality risk of elderly females compared to males was 59.4 percent greater, while in 2007 the risk was 80.4 percent greater.

Figure 2C-23
Trends in Mortality Rates for Alzheimer's Disease by Gender and Year among Elderly 65 Years and Older, Arizona, 1997-2007

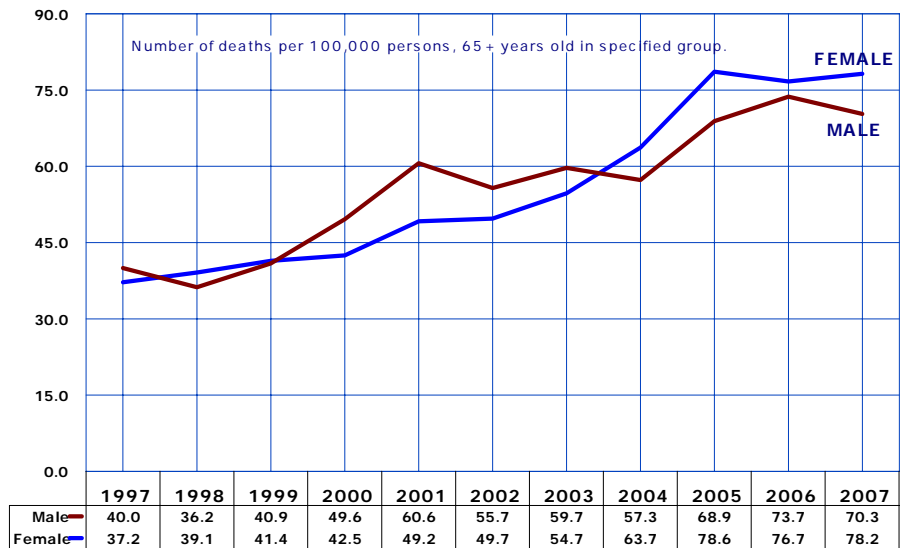


Note: The rates for 1997-1999 are based on the number of deaths according to ICD-9. The rates for 2000-2007 are based on the number of deaths according to ICD-10. For comparability, the rates for 1997-1999 are adjusted using the preliminary comparability ratio of 1.5536 from NCHS. Comparability ratio of 1.0 indicates that the same number of deaths was assigned to a cause of death whether ICD-9 or ICD-10 was used.

Among unintentional injury deaths unrelated to motor vehicles, Arizona's elderly experienced a substantial increase in mortality from fall-related injuries (Figure 2C-24). In 2007, 624 elderly Arizona 65 years or older died from fall-related injuries, compared to 291 in 1997. The rate of fall-related deaths among elderly females exceeded by 11.2 percent the mortality rate for falls among elderly males.

In 2007, those 85 years old or older, experienced the largest number of fall-related deaths (342), followed by Arizonans 75-84 years old (196 deaths) and the youngest elderly 65-74 years old (86 fall-related deaths). Among Arizonans 85 years or older in 2007, the rate of 315.2/100,000 for fall-related deaths was 15.6 times greater than the rate of 20.2/100,000 for those 65-74 years old.

Figure 2C-24
Trends in Mortality Rates for Falls and Fall-related Injuries by Gender and Year among Elderly 65 Years and Older, Arizona, 1997-2007



Note: The rates for 1997-1999 are based on the number of deaths according to ICD-9. The rates for 2000-2007 are based on the number of deaths according to ICD-10. For comparability, the rates for 1997-1999 are adjusted using the preliminary comparability ratio of 1.5536 from NCHS. Comparability ratio of 1.0 indicates that the same number of deaths was assigned to a cause of death whether ICD-9 or ICD-10 was used.